Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A flats mail autotraying system comprising:

a stack accumulator having means for combining multiple small stacks of mailpieces into a single large stack of mailpieces while maintaining sequence order; and

the stack accumulator also having means for transferring said large stack to a tray, wherein the means for transferring includes a plurality of driven rollers, and wherein the plurality of driven rollers includes driven bottom rollers and driven side rollers.

2. (Previously presented) The system of Claim 1, further comprising means for releasably engaging a tray.

3. (Canceled)

4. (Previously presented) The system of Claim 1, wherein said means for combining includes a fork lift assembly.

5. (Previously presented) The system of Claim 4, wherein said fork lift assembly is selectively raised and lowered, and is selectively positionable into and out of contact with said large stack during a fork lift cycle.

6. (Canceled)

7. (Currently amended) The system of Claim [[6]] 1, wherein said means for transferring further includes a means for pushing.

8-15. (Canceled)

16. (Previously presented) The system of Claim 1, wherein said stack accumulator maintains a sequence order of the mailpieces in said large stack by placing successive small stacks on the bottom of the large stack.

17-28. (Canceled)

29. (Previously presented) The system of Claim 1, wherein said stack accumulator includes a plurality of guides.

30. (Previously presented) The system of Claim 29, wherein said plurality of guides includes a side guide assembly.

31. (Previously presented) The system of Claim 30, wherein said side guide assembly is retractable.

32. (Canceled)

33. (Previously presented) The system of Claim 29, wherein said plurality of guides includes a rear guide assembly.

34. (Previously presented) The system of Claim 33, wherein said rear guide assembly is a flexible belt.

35. (Previously presented) The system of Claim 1, wherein said stack accumulator includes a gate.

36. (Previously presented) The system of Claim 1, wherein said stack accumulator includes a pusher arm.

37-50. (Canceled)

51. (Previously presented) The system of Claim 1, wherein the stack accumulator further comprises at least one of a side guide assembly and a rear guide assembly.

52. (Previously presented) The system of Claim 2, wherein the means for releasably engaging a tray includes a tray latch assembly and a tray support ledge.

53. (Previously presented) The system of Claim 5, further comprising a sensor for initiating the fork lift cycle when one of the small stacks of mailpieces is sensed by the sensor.

54. (Previously presented) The system of Claim 53, wherein the fork lift assembly extends under and holds the large stack above one of the small stacks of mailpieces, retracts when the fork lift cycle is initiated, releasing the large stack onto one of the small stacks of mailpieces to create a new large stack, lowers to a position under the new large stack, advances back under the new large stack, and raises to lift the new large stack to complete the fork lift cycle.

55. (Currently amended) The system of Claim [[6]] 1, wherein said plurality of rollers includes a top roller operatively connected to a pivot arm, the pivot arm raising as successive small stacks are added to the large stack, the pivot arm triggering a stack height limit sensor upon the large stack reaching a predetermined height, whereupon the stack accumulator transfers the large stack to the tray.

56. (Currently amended) A flats mail autotraying system comprising:

a stack accumulator having a fork lift assembly for combining multiple small stacks of mailpieces into a single large stack of mailpieces while maintaining sequence order;

the stack accumulator also having a plurality of rollers for transferring said large stack to a tray;

wherein the stack accumulator sequentially receives a stream of small stacks of mailpieces, and maintains a sequence order of the mailpieces in said large stack by placing successive small stacks on the bottom of the large stack; and

wherein the plurality of rollers includes driven bottom rollers and driven side rollers.

57. (Previously presented) The system of Claim 56, wherein the stack accumulator further comprises a tray engagement assembly for releasably engaging a tray, wherein the tray engaging assembly engages an empty tray as the large stack is transferred to the tray, and releases the tray once filled.

58. (Previously presented) The system of Claim 56, further comprising a sensor for initiating a fork lift cycle when each of said small stacks of mailpieces advances into said sensor.

59. (Previously presented) The system of Claim 58, wherein said fork lift extends under and holds said large stack above each of said small stacks of mailpieces, retracts when said fork lift cycle is initiated, releasing said large stack onto each of said small stacks of mailpieces, lowers to a position under said large stack, advances back under said large stack, and raises to lift said large stack to complete said fork lift cycle.

60. (Canceled)

61. (Currently amended) The system of Claim [[60]] 56, wherein the plurality of rollers further includes a top roller.

62. (Previously presented) The system of Claim 61, further comprising a stack height limit sensor, wherein the top roller is operatively connected to a pivot arm, and wherein the pivot arm raises as successive small stacks are added to the large stack to trigger the stack height limit sensor upon the large stack reaching a predetermined height.

63. (Previously presented) The system of Claim 62, wherein the stack accumulator transfers the large stack to the tray upon the stack height limit sensor being triggered.

64. (Previously presented) The system of Claim 56, wherein the stack accumulator further includes a plurality of guides.

65. (Previously presented) The system of Claim 64, wherein the plurality of guides includes a retractable side guide assembly.

66. (Previously presented) The system of Claim 65, wherein the retractable side guide assembly includes high friction belt strips.

67. (Previously presented) The system of Claim 64, wherein the plurality of guides includes a rear guide assembly.

68. (Previously presented) The system of Claim 67, wherein the rear guide assembly is a flexible belt.

69. (Previously presented) The system of Claim 56, wherein the stack accumulator includes a gate, wherein the gate is closed during the accumulation of the large stack, and opens during the transfer of the large stack to the tray.

70. (Previously presented) The system of Claim 56, wherein the stack accumulator includes a pusher arm which pushes on the large stack during the transfer of the large stack to the tray.

71. (Previously presented) The system of Claim 57, wherein the tray engagement assembly includes a tray latch assembly, a tray support ledge, and at least one mail guide.

72. (New) A flats mail autotraying system comprising:

a stack accumulator having means for combining multiple small stacks of mailpieces into a single large stack of mailpieces while maintaining sequence order; and

the stack accumulator also having means for transferring said large stack to a tray,

wherein said stack accumulator includes a plurality of guides, and

wherein said plurality of guides includes a side guide assembly, and

wherein said side guide assembly includes high friction belt strips.

73. (New) A flats mail autotraying system comprising:

a stack accumulator having means for combining multiple small stacks of mailpieces into a single large stack of mailpieces while maintaining sequence order; and

the stack accumulator also having means for transferring said large stack to a tray,

wherein said stack accumulator includes a plurality of guides, and

wherein said plurality of guides includes a rear guide assembly, and

wherein said rear guide assembly is a flexible belt.

74. (New) A flats mail autotraying system comprising:

a stack accumulator having a fork lift assembly for combining multiple small stacks of mailpieces into a single large stack of mailpieces while maintaining sequence order;

the stack accumulator also having a plurality of rollers for transferring said large stack to a tray;

wherein the stack accumulator sequentially receives a stream of small stacks of mailpieces, and maintains a sequence order of the mailpieces in said large stack by placing successive small stacks on the bottom of the large stack;

wherein the stack accumulator further includes a plurality of guides;

wherein the plurality of guides includes a retractable side guide assembly; and

wherein the retractable side guide assembly includes high friction belt strips.

75. (New) A flats mail autotraying system comprising:

a stack accumulator having a fork lift assembly for combining multiple small stacks of mailpieces into a single large stack of mailpieces while maintaining sequence order;

the stack accumulator also having a plurality of rollers for transferring said large stack to a tray;

wherein the stack accumulator sequentially receives a stream of small stacks of mailpieces, and maintains a sequence order of the mailpieces in said large stack by placing successive small stacks on the bottom of the large stack;

wherein the stack accumulator further includes a plurality of guides;

wherein the plurality of guides includes a rear guide assembly; and

wherein the rear guide assembly is a flexible belt.